

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO ALBERTA
STONECIPHER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2000

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Alberta Stonecipher of Bethalto, IL. Mrs. Stonecipher is the mother of nine children, and has eleven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She has made it her responsibility to be an active participant in the Madison County Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD).

Despite the fact that Mrs. Stonecipher has not lost one of her own to a drunk driver, she asked her children for Mother's Day to donate their money to MADD instead of buying her gifts. As a result, her family donated \$125 to the fight against drunk driving.

I want to thank Mrs. Stonecipher for finding such an important cause and devoting herself to it. Her dedication to helping those who have been a victim to drunk driving and to helping stop it is truly remarkable.

TRIBUTE TO LINDA DEWITT

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2000

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, choose a major cause in the Galesburg area and you would find Linda DeWitt. She fought for union causes, women's issues and a host of community oriented programs and projects.

Linda DeWitt was a long time union activist and worker at Protexall in Galesburg, Illinois. She was the President of her local union, UNITE Local 920 for more than 20 years. She was also the chairwoman of the board of the Chicago and Central States Joint Board of UNITE and the President of the Galesburg Trades and Labor Council.

Linda died on May 15th.

When Linda wasn't at work at Protexall hemming or pressing pants—a job she did for 28 years—Linda was doing union work. If she wasn't involved in matters relating her union UNITE, you could find her at the Galesburg Labor Temple tending to matters there. Or perhaps tending to matters involving the Midwest Employees Credit Union, which she chaired.

Linda ran the Labor Assembly in Galesburg and that meant running the bingo to keep the place going. She ran the bingo and did the cooking. She was the chair of the Bingo Board for 18 years. Linda put everything into making sure that the bingo was fun. She was creative in coming up with new ideas, games and prizes to make bingo more than just a game.

Many people believe Linda lived at the union hall.

Linda was proud that Galesburg had one of the oldest Labor Day Parades in the country. She was the principal organizer of that parade for many years.

According to her co-workers, Linda had the ability to fit 36 hours worth of accomplishments into a 24-hour day. Linda was always gracious and kind-hearted—always thinking of others and trying to help them before herself.

During her battle with a brain tumor, the Peoria Journal Star did a feature about Linda's struggle. The article depicted Linda's attitude and her religious faith. Incredibly Linda characterized her illness as a win-win situation. But Linda was always a person who could find light in dark situations.

One of her fellow union members of UNITE Local 920 said she will always remember Linda telling her to "just keep smiling". That says it all about Linda DeWitt.

Linda was quoted as saying that she's tried to live her life "where people can say I've done good." There can be no question about all the good that Linda DeWitt has been a part of throughout her entire life.

She was always dedicated to her family and her work and she did so much for her union and the community.

Her passing is a tremendous loss for West Central Illinois, the community of Galesburg, her union and her family.

HONORING FORESTVILLE ELEMEN-
TARY SCHOOL'S SIXTH GRADE
TEACHERS, DR. JUDITH
ISAACSON, AND PRINCIPAL DAVE
KULP

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the faculty of Forestville Elementary School, particularly its sixth grade teachers, Assistant Principal Dr. Judith Isaacson, and Principal Dave Kulp. I join the sixth grade class of 2000 in saluting the wonderful job they have done and their tireless dedication to their students.

Forestville Elementary has flourished in the twenty years since opening its doors in 1980. It is currently in the top six percent of elementary schools, statewide, with regard to Standards of Learning passage. But its greatest accomplishment by far is the education and values that Forestville instills into each and every student that walks through its halls and studies in its classrooms.

This elementary school is leaping into the 21st century by taking full advantage of today's technology and using it to its full potential in the classroom. It has a fully equipped in-

formation center which includes CD-ROM, laser disc, and telecommunications stations. Each day, students use classroom computers to accomplish tasks that integrate technology use into all curriculum areas.

Forestville Elementary does not only educate its students in the use of the latest technology, but also emphasizes some of the most important life lessons a child can learn—the joy of helping others and a commitment to the community in which he or she lives. There is a school wide "buddy" program where younger children are paired with older ones who listen to them read aloud, help them complete special projects, and accompany them on field trips. Also, an active outreach program provides school supplies, food, clothing, gifts, and other needed materials to the school's adopted "sister" school, a local homeless shelter, and victims of natural disasters.

Forestville also encourages children to learn by example—their parents'. The parents in this community work closely with the school on activities such as Project HUG, a reading program for first and second grade students which gives trained parent volunteers the opportunity to work with students who need reinforcement of skills. Over 100 percent regularly volunteer to help children in the computer labs.

And, of course, none of this would be possible without the loving dedication of faculty and staff like Dr. Judith Isaacson and Principal Dave Kulp. These individuals help to create an enthusiastic environment that not only encourages the students to pursue their studies with vigor, but also helps them develop a love of learning that will stay with them throughout their lives. The faculty and staff are the people who bring Forestville's Core Knowledge Sequence to life in the classroom, ensuring that each student has a solid, coherent foundation in history, geography, mathematics, science, language arts, and the fine arts. They are the people who are teaching these children to have a sharp mind, an honest heart, and a strong sense of duty to both their community and their country. I am glad to see that the education of the future leaders of the 21st century are in these very capable hands.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I would like to commend Forestville Elementary and all its faculty and staff for the outstanding job they have done with these students. On behalf of the sixth grade class, thank you for your hard work, dedication, and endless support.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2000

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I was absent and unable to vote the afternoon of June

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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